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(1) That branch movements occur in certain trees, due to temperature changes below the freezing point of water, and that in certain other trees no movement whatever has been observed. (2) That the movements amount to as much as 3 or 4 ft. differences in the distance from the ground to the ends of certain curved branches which are in length of the order of 20 ft., these changes occurring through a range of 30 degrees below freezing. (3) That little, if any, movement takes place above freezing point of water, and that the movements begin soon after the temperature remains at this point for several hours. (4) That there is a considerable lag in the movement of the branches behind the temperature changes, although a difference in the rate of change of temperature is followed at once by a difference in the rate of change of the position of the branches. (5) That the movements are practically of equal magnitude in December, January and February, that is, the seasonal change is not a ruling factor in this movement.

Meeting adjourned.

B. O. DODGE,
Secretary

NEWS ITEMS

From the Pasadena *Star* we learn of the return to civilization of Paul E. Popenoe after a nine months' expedition to the region near the head of the Persian Gulf, in search of different strains of the date palm. He is now en route to California with 14,000 date palms. These plants are expected to yield valuable information in regard to the availability of the date in California. They will supplement the collections of Dr. David Fairchild, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, from the same part of Arabia and Persia.

Dr. Edward W. Berry, associate in paleobotany at the Johns Hopkins University, has been elected a member of the Geological Society of France.

On March 25, 1914, Professor A. Engler, of the Royal University of Berlin and director of the Royal Botanical Garden and Museum at Berlin, will celebrate his seventieth birthday. A

marble bust will be made by the sculptor B. Mauthein Schmar-gendorf. Contributions for this bust are solicited from American botanists and may be sent Für die Engler-Büste, care of Deutsche Bank, Depositenkasse L, Berlin N. 4, or to Dr. L. Wittmack, Berlin, N. W. 40.

President Wilson has appointed Beverly T. Galloway as assistant secretary of agriculture and the senate has confirmed the appointment. The selection of Dr. Galloway, for more than twenty years associated with the Department of Agriculture, and since 1900 the active head of the Bureau of Plant Industry, is in every way an appointment that must bring general satisfaction to the scientific men of the country. Dr. William A. Taylor has been appointed chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry to succeed Dr. Galloway.

Mr. E. L. Morris has gone to Arizona to study types of desert vegetation, especially with a view to the making of museum models for a comprehensive group to be installed in the Brooklyn Institute Museum.

The Brooklyn Botanic Garden has purchased the herbarium of the late Henry Dautun, of Jersey City, who was a member of the Torrey Club. The collection comprises about thirty thousand specimens, mostly from Europe and the United States.

A preliminary announcement has been published of an excursion of European and American plant geographers, during August and September. The party will leave Chicago about August 1 and after touring over most of the United States, will arrive in New York about September 25. A more comprehensive announcement will be issued in the near future.

The University of Colorado mountain laboratory is to have a six weeks' session during the coming summer at Tolland, Colorado. Courses in botany and zoölogy are offered and particulars may be obtained from Dr. F. Ramaly, Boulder, Colorado.